

VISIT...

LANZAROTE
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Tutor Teaching Tips

Repeated Reading • U-4

MATERIALS

Reading
Passage:
Part 1 (2 copies)

Timing device;
Graph

Reading
Passage:
Part 2 (2 copies)

Game cards

Introducing the Passage



5 minutes

Read part 1 of the passage *Saguaros* to provide a model of fluent reading. Read with expression at a normal reading pace, taking about one minute to read the passage.

Give the child a copy of the passage and have him/her read it with you. If he/she has difficulty, slow the pace or read small chunks (one or two sentences), and then have the child read each chunk with you until you have read the entire passage.

Read the entire passage with the child one or two more times.

Building Fluency



5–10 minutes

Have the child read the passage out loud while you time him/her for one minute. As the child reads, place a check mark on your copy of the passage over each word that he/she misreads. If the child pauses for three seconds, tell him/her the word and mark it as an error. Do not correct errors during the reading. After one minute, tell the child to stop. Circle the last word the child read. Help the child plot the number of words read on the graph. The goal is 130 words per minute at at least 90% accuracy.

Discuss errors once the child has completed the reading. Discuss word-attack strategies such as sounding out parts of words, looking for smaller words or recognizable chunks within larger words, and thinking about how the meanings of words relate to other parts of the text.

Do not exceed more than four independent readings of a passage in a single session. If the child seems to have too much difficulty, drop to a lower level during the next tutoring session.

Checking for Understanding



5 minutes

Ask the child to retell the passage. Look for detail in his/her retelling. Give the child time to respond independently. If needed, prompt with the following sample questions:

Where does the saguaro grow? (the Sonoran Desert in the U.S. Southwest)

What is the Sonoran Desert like? (hot and dry; tough to survive)

How do saguaros protect themselves? (thousands of two-inch spines)

If time permits, repeat the steps above using part 2 of the passage, *Saguaros*.

Optional Activity



5–10 minutes

PLAYING A WORD GAME: Spread out the game cards face down on the table. Have the child turn over two cards, read each, and tell you whether the words are antonyms (opposites). If the child is correct and the words are antonyms, he/she gets to keep the cards and go again. If the child is not correct or the words are not antonyms, he/she will turn over the cards. It is now your turn. Repeat the game as time permits.

Part 1

A saguaro (sa-WAH-roh) is a giant green cactus. It has a round 11
 trunk and curved arms. People often think that saguaros look like 22
 humans. Many saguaros look like they are waving, and some 32
 appear to be dancing. 36

The saguaro cactus grows in the Sonoran Desert. In fact, the 47
 saguaro grows only in the Sonoran Desert. It cannot be found 58
 anywhere else in the world! 63

The Sonoran Desert is hot and dry. Months can pass without a 75
 single drop of rain. Survival in this desert can be tough. Animals 87
 and plants must find enough water to live. They have to protect 99
 themselves from extreme weather. They also must defend 107
 against hungry animals. 110

The saguaro knows how to protect itself in the desert. It grows 122
 thousands of two-inch spines on its body. These sharp spines 133
 prevent animals from eating it. Spines are the saguaro's silent 143
 way of saying, "Hey, don't eat me! And don't knock me 154
 down, either!" 156



Ouch! That
would hurt.

Part 2

The saguaro is an expert water collector. Its long, shallow roots 11
 spread out in all directions, just below the ground's surface. 21
 When it does rain, these roots soak up tons of water. The cactus 34
 stores this water inside its trunk and arms. 42

Many plants lose water through their leaves. But the saguaro has 53
 spines instead of leaves. The saguaro's skin is tough and waxy. 64
 In this way, it doesn't lose as much water. 73

A saguaro grows very slowly. At age 14, it is still only as tall as 88
 a pencil! A baby saguaro normally grows under a "nursing" plant. 99
 The nursing plant protects it from the sun, wind, and animals. 110

A saguaro will not grow its first flower until the age of 50. After 124
 that, it will grow its first branch, or "arm." The cactus may grow 137
 many arms and hundreds of flowers. A 200-year-old saguaro 148
 will stand over 50 feet tall. This is as high as three giraffes 161
 stacked on top of each other! 167



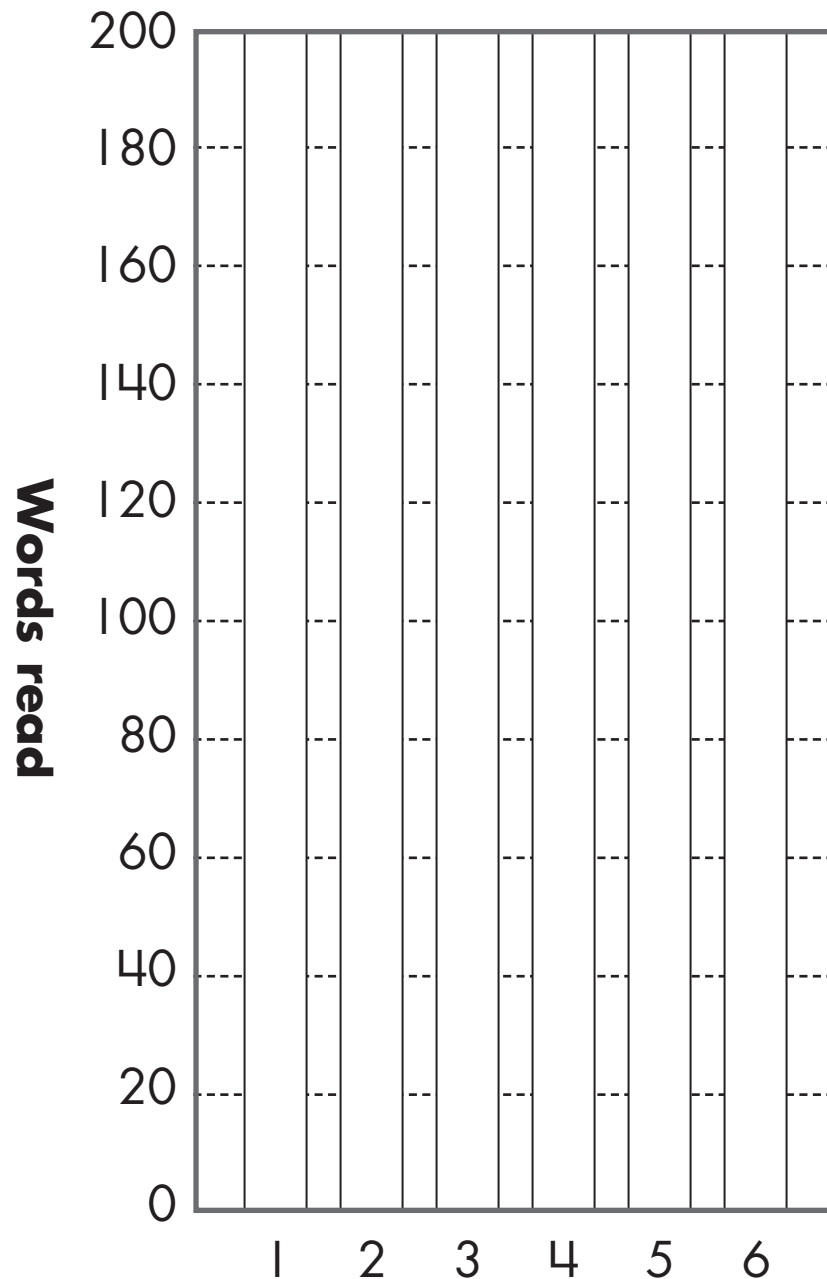
Saguaros are expert water collectors.

Fluency

Repeated Reading Bar Graph

Lesson U-4

Name _____ Date _____



Number of errors: _____
 1 2 3 4 5 6



giant

curved

grows

found

hot

dry

difficult

live

sharp

silent

tiny

straight

shrinks

lost

cold

wet

easy

die

dull

noisy